

NEWS RELEASE

Alabama Department of Public Safety

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Troopers Say, 'It's No Trick — Be Safe on Halloween'

MONTGOMERY — Alabama state troopers advise motorists to slow down and watch for trick-or-treaters to help ensure pedestrian and motor vehicle safety this Halloween, according to Col. Mike Coppage, director of the Alabama Department of Public Safety.

Coppage also reminded motorists that daylight savings time ends Oct. 29. "Fewer daylight hours and earlier nightfall requires increased vigilance on the part of drivers, particularly when pedestrians are present," said Coppage.

As Halloween nears, troopers issue the following safety recommendations provided by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration:

Motorist safety

- ◆ Slow down. Watch for children walking on roads, medians and curbs.
- ◆ Enter and exit driveways carefully.
- ◆ Be especially alert for children darting out from between parked vehicles and from behind bushes and shrubs.
- ◆ Never drink and drive – on Halloween or any night. If you are partying, designate a driver.

Pedestrian safety

Parents:

- ◆ Accompany your children and supervise trick-or-treat activities.
- ◆ Review all traffic rules with your children before setting out.
- ◆ Remind children to "Stop! Look left-right-left again and listen" before crossing the street.

Trick-or-Treaters:

- ◆ Obey all traffic rules.
- ◆ Walk – never run – from house to house or across the road.
- ◆ Whenever possible, cross streets at intersections or in crosswalks.
- ◆ Walk on sidewalks whenever possible, or walk on the left side of the street facing traffic if no sidewalk is available.
- ◆ Carry a flashlight.

Costume safety

- ◆ Avoid masks or hoods that obscure vision.
- ◆ Do not choose "costume" shoes that make walking difficult.
- ◆ Make sure costumes do not impede walking (or driving) ability.
- ◆ Add reflective tape to back, chest, arms and legs.

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for more information contact:

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